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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
26 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: Comment on General Collins' Report

This report is accurate and complete in its survey of the existing situation and corresponds with the views of this office.

The section dealing with attitudes and intentions of the French (par. 6 on page 8 of the supplement) is an extremely useful clarification of a confusing situation. This office strongly concurs with General Collins' observation that French intentions toward Vietnam are crucial. There is a mass of supporting evidence for his assertion that "the French in Vietnam do not speak with a single voice."

The report does not address itself to the critically important question of the elections scheduled for July 1956. Based on present trends, Viet Minh victory in nationwide elections in 1956 is virtually assured. It follows from this that the prospects of preventing a peaceful Viet Minh takeover of all of Vietnam are very poor unless the elections can be postponed. General Collins confines himself to a discussion of measures designed to strengthen South Vietnam as a contender in the elections. He does not discuss alternatives to the holding of elections.

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Document No. 17
No Change in Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
Class. Changed ☒ 3
Auth: [REDACTED]
Date: 20 Sept 78 [REDACTED]

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FE - 6, 7, 8.
HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Assistant Director,
Current Intelligence

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ARMY review(s) completed.

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